

Today in Corps history:
March 26, 1944: The 1st Marine Division defeated the Chinese in the Battle for “Vegas” Hill in Korea.

Source: Marine Corps History

FAST FACT



News: NHB awards top sailor, see Page 3

Feature: DI fights breast cancer with help from 4th RTBn., see Page 4

Around the Corps: 11th MEU conducts urban training in Phoenix, see Page 7

THE BOOT

“We Make Marines”

Inside



WWII veterans begin war against new enemies

With every sunrise, the men and women of the Delaware Valley Veterans Home move one day closer to life’s ultimate peace and one day further from the bloody beaches (For more, see Page 5)

Volume 56 Number 12

Serving the Marines and Sailors of MCRD/ERR Parris Island, S.C.

March 26, 2004

Depot News

DEPOT PREPARED FOR PASSOVER CELEBRATION

The Hebrew celebration of Passover is almost here. Beginning sundown, April 5, employees and service members of the Jewish faith will celebrate the Passover festival. Service members and thier families, who wish to observe Passover, can attend a seder celebration service at the Religious Ministries Center from 5:30 - 8 p.m. Further information is available by calling the RMC at 228-2353 or 228-3533.

PIOSC SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNEY APRIL 30

The Parris Island Officer’s Spouses’ Club hosts their 12th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament April 30 at The Legends at Parris Island. The four-person, captain’s choice tournament begins at 11 a.m. with lunch followed by a noon shotgun start. Registration is \$45 for Legends members, \$50 for all others.

For more details, call 524-7882.

DEPOT COMMISSARY SETS NEW HOURS

The Parris Island Commissary will have new store hours beginning Tuesday. The store will be open Sunday from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Tuesday - Saturday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. The commissary will also be open for early bird shopping from 9 - 10 a.m. Tuesday - Friday. For more information, call 228-2679.

BROWN BAG YOUR MEDICATIONS AT NHB

The Naval Hospital Beaufort invites patients with left over medications to put them in a brown bag and bring them to the Pharmacy Tuesday for disposal. Medications can be dropped off from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Entertainment

IMAX SHOWING THREE NEW MOVIES

The Charleston IMAX theater is introducing three new films. “Coral Reef Adventure,” starring ocean explorers Howard and Michele Hall, “Nascar 3D: The IMAX Experience,” where the viewer is able to experience being in the driver’s seat of one of North America’s most popular spectator sport; “Bugs!,” a live action nature drama that explores the lives of an Old World praying mantis and a beautiful butterfly known as Hierodula and Papilo.

For more information, call 843-725-IMAX or visit the Web site at www.charlestonimax.com.

Out in Town

LOWCOUNTRY HOSTS CAJUN FESTIVAL

The 13th Annual Lowcountry Cajun festival is slated for April 4, from noon - 6 p.m. at the James Island County Park. Annual Gold Passes are honored. There is an \$8 fee for each adult or five books of Greenbax Stamps. Children 12 and under can attend free of charge. For more information, call 795-4FUN.

Weather



Friday
Warm/Breezy
Hi 73 Low 55
Saturday
Sunny
Hi 75 Low 54
Sunday
Partly Cloudy
Hi 77 Low 56

PATRICIA BINNS

NHB PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Naval Hospital Beaufort, built in 1949, is the oldest Military Treatment Facility in the Navy. A substantial upgrade of the 1940’s vintage electrical infrastructure is required.

The nature of the work will necessitate brief interruptions of emergency and operating room services. The first outages occurred on Wednesday and Thursday, while the next outages are

scheduled for 4 a.m., April 17, until noon April 18.

“Naval Hospital Beaufort remains committed to providing high-quality safe health care to our beneficiaries in the Tri-Command area,” said Navy Capt. James Hoffower, commanding officer of the Naval Hospital.

Emergent care

NHB will not receive ambulances during these times. Any beneficiaries who feels they have an emergency should

call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room for treatment.

An emergency is a medical problem that could cause death or permanent injury if not treated right away. For example, severe bleeding, difficulty breathing, chest pain or pressure, broken bones, partial or total amputation of a limb, head injuries, and sudden dizziness or difficulty seeing, among others.

Acute care

Acute medical problems are those ill-

nesses or injuries that are not life threatening but need attention sooner than later. Examples include cuts or wounds that may require stitches, sprains/strains, mild asthma attacks, ear infections, urinary tract infections, upper respiratory infections, diarrhea, sore throats, insect bites, and rashes.

Active duty personnel and recruits may be seen for acute care treatment at the

(see NHB, Page 3)

Tri-Command tests response capabilities

STAFF SGT. BENJAMIN N. HAYNES

PRESS CHIEF

Agencies throughout the Tri-Command and Beaufort County tested their awareness levels and ability to counter terrorist activities during an Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection exercise March 10-19.

Anti-terrorism training is mandated Marine Corps wide in order to accomplish several goals. The main focus of this training is to develop reasonable plans and procedures that enhance the Depot’s ability to mitigate the effects of incidents. Other goals include, deterring detecting and defeating terrorist threats.

The strength of any anti-terrorism plan or drill is to capitalize on the capabilities of an entire community, said Maj. Neal F. Pugliese, MCRD/ERR AT/FP officer.

“This exercise was designed to test and validate the Tri-Command and Beaufort County’s ability to process and disseminate information, apply concepts and procedures found in governing documents, conduct response/recover operations, and conduct complex coordination with exterior agencies,” he said.

The exercise had four specific objectives: coordinating civil/military plans and operations in preparation for “real world” events; disseminate information within the Beaufort County and military networks; validate and improve the communication network and procedures with the Tri-Command/Beaufort County Emergency Management System; and exercise AT/FP and Emergency Operations Center plans/orders while exposing all participants to like scenarios.

Several scenarios, such as suspicious packages, bomb threats and a mass casualty drill were designed to test the various aspects of the Depot’s capability to respond to incidents and work with other Tri-Command and Beaufort County agencies.

“The experience working with our partners in the Tri-

(see TEST, Page 3)



Lance Cpl. Darhonda V. Hall

Sergeant Raymond C. Lombard, an explosive ordnance technician with MCAS Beaufort, participates in the simulated bomb threat exercise during the Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection drill. Lombard wore the bomb suit to safely approach the Visitors Center to see what the possible bomb looked like as part of the drill.



Lance Cpl. Darhonda V. Hall

Sergeant Maj. Timothy J. Didas, incoming Weapons and Field Training Bn. Sergeant Major, receives the battalion sword from Col. John P. Holden, commanding officer WFTBn., during the relief and appointment ceremony Tuesday at the WFTBn. Chapel.

Didas replaces Wylie as WFTBn. sergeant major

LANCE CPL.

DARHONDA V. HALL

STAFF WRITER

Sergeant Maj. Timothy J. Didas relieved Sgt. Maj. Ernest J. Wylie in the relief and appointment ceremony held at the Depot WFTBn. Chapel Tuesday.

Didas, before coming to the Depot, was the Inspector and Instructor Tank Battalion sergeant major in Rochester, N.Y. Didas said his job there was to oversee the battalion headquarters and four reserve tank companies.

“The unit I was with mobilized about 327 Marines and sailors to Iraq,” he added.

Didas, a native of Hornell, N.Y., has been in the Marine Corps for almost 23 years. He is married and has no children. Didas graduated from Parris Island and returned to complete a drill instructor tour at 2nd RTBn., Fox Co.



Lance Cpl. Darhonda V. Hall
Sergeant Maj. Ernest J. Wylie is taking over as the Recruit Training Regiment Sergeant Major.

“I like to take care of Marines,” Didas said, “That’s what I plan on doing while I’m here.”

Wylie, former WFTBn. sergeant major, will now be the Recruit Training Regiment Sergeant Major. Before becoming sergeant major of WFTBn., Wylie served as the unit sergeant major when he was transferred to VMA-311, MAG-13, 3rd Marine Air Craft Wing, Yuma, Ariz.

Wylie also completed a drill instructor tour in December 1981, serving as both a junior and senior drill instructor.

Wylie, who has a wife and two children, has been with the WFTBn. since January 2002.

“Marines in the WFTBn. are in a support role and there are a lot of things people don’t recognize that WFTBn. does do ... I just hope for the continuation of their professional growth,” Wylie said about the Marines at WFTBn.

Wylie said he is looking forward to working with the Recruit Training Regiment.